

REMARKS

Claims 1-47 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-47.

Claims Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

The Examiner has again rejected claims 1-47 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayward et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,574,828) for the same reasons as set forth in the Office Action dated April 19, 2007.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 45, and 46. As amended, these claims include limitations that are not taught, described, or suggested by the cited combination. For example, the system provides a current recommendation during the iterative process of inputting and processing input data through only a portion of the algorithm. This current recommendation that is displayed to the user provides information so that the user can decide if modification or addition of the information is needed. It also allows the user to iteratively make changes to the input parameters and then see what the results will be without progressing all the way through the algorithm. If the user is satisfied, the user can optionally stop and accept the current recommendation as the final recommendation. The cited combination does not teach this step.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request that this application be reexamined and that the claims, as amended, be allowed.

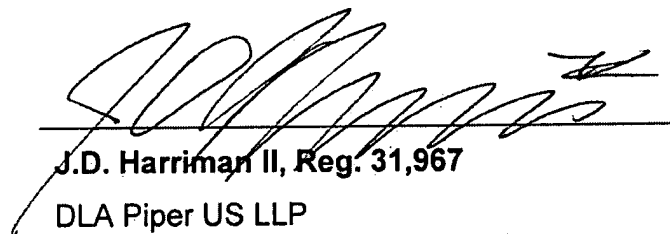
Applicants file concurrently herewith a REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE), along with the government fees.

Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 07-1896.

An updated CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS was filed on October 29, 2007. Please update the Patent Office records and send future correspondence regarding this application to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 9, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.D. Harriman II", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

J.D. Harriman II, Reg. 31,967

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